

IN THE CLAIMS

1 1. (original) A method for re-booting an operating system software in a data processing
2 system, comprising the steps of:

3 determining whether a buffer contains a message indicating that a BIOS image for the
4 data processing system was previously updated;

5 performing a signature verification on a remainder of the BIOS image; and

6 proceeding with re-boot of the operating system software if the signature verification
7 correctly verifies the remainder of the BIOS image.

1 2. (original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of:

2 not proceeding with the re-boot of the operating system software if the signature
3 verification does not correctly verify the remainder of the BIOS image.

1 3. (original) The method as recited in claim 2, further comprising the steps of:

2 performing an update to the BIOS image previous to the determining step; and

3 storing the message into the buffer responsive to the step of performing the update to the
4 BIOS image.

1 4. (original) A data processing system comprising:

2 means for performing an update to the BIOS image;

3 means for storing a message into a memory location wherein the message indicates that
4 the BIOS image has been updated;

5 during a subsequent re-boot of the data processing system, means for determining an
6 existence of the message;

7 responsive to a determination that the message is stored in the memory location, means
8 for performing a signature verification on a remainder of the BIOS image; and

9 means for proceeding with the re-boot of the data processing system if the signature
10 verification correctly verifies the remainder of the BIOS image.

1 5. (original) The system as recited in claim 4, further comprising:

2 means for not proceeding with the re-boot of the data processing system if the signature
3 verification does not correctly verify the remainder of the BIOS image.

1 6. (original) A computer program product adaptable for storage on a computer readable
2 medium and operable for re-booting an operating system software in a data processing system,
3 comprising the program steps of:

4 determining whether a buffer in the data processing system contains a message indicating
5 that a BIOS image for the data processing system was previously updated;

6 responsive to a determination that the buffer contains the message indicating that the
7 BIOS image for the data processing system was previously updated, performing a signature
8 verification on a remainder of the BIOS image; and

9 proceeding with re-boot of the operating system software if the signature verification
10 correctly verifies the remainder of the BIOS image.

1 7. (original) The computer program product as recited in claim 6, further comprising the
2 program step of:

3 not proceeding with the re-boot of the operating system software if the signature
4 verification does not correctly verify the remainder of the BIOS image.

- 1 8. (original) The computer program product as recited in claim 7, further
2 comprising the program steps of:
- 3 performing an update to the BIOS image previous to the determining step; and
4 storing the message into the buffer responsive to the step of performing the
5 update to the BIOS image.